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National legislation and practice relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space

Note by the Secretariat

Addendum

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II. Replies received from member States

Poland

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[2 January 2016]

On behalf of the Council of Ministers (Polish Government), the Ministry of Development (previously the Ministry of Economy), in cooperation with all members of the Interministerial Board for Space Policy in Poland (i.e., Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Science and Higher Education, Ministry of National Defence, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Infrastructure and Building, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administration and Ministry of Digitization) prepared the national space law under the working title "National Registry of Space Objects". This task was initiated in 2014.

Justification of the initiative

Poland is a party to the following international treaties and conventions: the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space and the Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects. These treaties stipulate the necessity of elaborating national legislation with regard to such matters as principles of issuing approval for activity in space by national entities and the specification of an authority responsible for supervising such type of activity; principles of maintaining a national registry of space objects; and issues concerning the country's responsibility and compensation.

In order to fulfil an obligation for Poland, arising from these treaties, the Ministry of Development is currently elaborating guidelines for the act that will also contain regulations concerning maintenance of the registry of space objects launched into space by Polish entities. It is planned that the registry will be kept by the Polish Space Agency.

In order to formulate guidelines for the act, the Ministry of Development cooperates with all members of the Interministerial Board for Space Policy in Poland, as well as with scientific institutions, faculties of law at universities and enterprises from the space sector. With regard to the above, a working group on space law has been established, dealing with detailed legal solutions that will also support the development of the Polish space sector.

Turkey

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Given the current level of space activities and aeronautics technologies in Turkey, there is no national legislation or practice defining or delimiting outer space.